

## Minutes Tempe Veterans Commission November 6, 2018

Minutes of the TEMPE VETERANS COMMISSION held on Tuesday, November 6, 6:00 p.m., at the East Valley Veterans Education Center, 3320 South Price Road, Tempe, Arizona.

**(MEMBERS) Present:**

Keith Finkle, Chair  
William Blair  
Lauren Hyre  
Patricia Little-Upah  
David Lucier  
Matthew Schmidt  
Laura Skotnicki

**(MEMBERS) Absent:**

Troy Friedman, Vice-Chair  
Michelle Loposky

**City Staff Present:**

Octavia Harris, Human Services Deputy Director  
Parrish Spisz, Council Aide II+  
Melissa Placencia, Administrative Assistant II+

**Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order**

Chair Keith Finkle called the meeting to order at 5:59 p.m.

**Agenda Item 2 – Public Appearances**

None

**Agenda Item 3 – 2018 Boards & Commissions Annual Report Discussion**

The Commission identified the following 2018 Accomplishments:

- Continued support and partnership with Care7 and Tempe Fire Medical Rescue's VA Telemedicine Program
- Recommend to City Council two signature events – One for those entering service and one for those returning
- Promote efforts of the Tempe Veterans Commission and its work in the Tempe community
- Participate in Grand Opening of the Valor on Eighth Housing Project, and collaborate with Save the Family to support veteran residents
- **Quality of Life**
  - Focus on district communication to conduct resource fairs and gain Congressman buy-in
  - Sustain support for the Regional Veteran's Court
- **Sustainable Growth & Development**
  - Continued partnership with East Valley Veterans Education Center as the official One Stop Shop for the City of Tempe

Commission Members agreed to provide a list of events they have attended where they represented the Tempe Veterans Commission to include in the Annual Report.

The Commission identified the following 2018 Goals Related to City Council Priorities:

- **Safe & Secure Communities**
  - Continued support and partnership with Care7 and Tempe Fire Medical Rescue's VA Telemedicine Program
- **Strong Community Connections**
  - Continue community salutes
  - Identify a welcome home event
  - Integrate with other city departments
- **Quality of Life**
  - Focus championing on creating an endowment so Tempe residents have access to a one-stop shop for Veterans resources
- **Financial Stability & Vitality**
  - Southwest Chamber of Commerce partnership
  - Community Salutes fundraising

**Agenda Item 4 – Future Agenda Items – December 4, 2018**

- Veterans Commission Awards Discussion
- Review Current Regional Veterans Court Statistics
- East Valley Veterans Education Center Update
- Commission Officer Elections
- Business Survey Update – Parrish Spisz
- Review and Approve 2018 Annual Report

**Agenda Item 13 - Adjournment**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.**

Next meeting will be on December 4, 2018

Minutes Prepared by: Melissa Placencia

Reviewed by: Parrish Spisz

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Keith Finkle, Chair  
Tempe Veterans Commission